Force has successfully completed more than 10,000 hours of safe flying on these aircraft since their induction into service in 2002.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A continuous and multi-faceted effort is always underway in the Indian Air Force to enhance and upgrade flight safety. Measures to enhance the quality of training to improve the skill levels, ability to exercise sound judgement and situational awareness of pilots are being pursued. Constant interaction with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) of concerned countries are also maintained to overcome the technical defects of aircraft. Besides, anti-bird measures are also undertaken.

Production of sensors Indigenously

924. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether installation of sensors on our Borders can play a very effective role in dealing with cross-border infiltrators and cross-border terrorism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Bharat Dynamics, DMRL, ECIL, AMD of Hyderabad; NPL of Delhi and Ahmedabad, BARC, IIT of Bombay and I.I.S; of Bangalore are fully equipped with research and Technology to produce sensors indigenously;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to make use of these research and development by these organizations to produce sensors; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The installation of sensors along with erection of fencing and other surveillance devices as well as a robust and dynamic deployment posture of troops can play an effective role in bringing down the level of cross-border infiltration. Sensors could be radar sensors, opto-electronic sensors and buried pressure sensors.

(c) to (e) Indigenous sources of supply of sensors are available and these sources are also considered for supply of sensors to Indian Army and para military forces for use on border fencing.